

Elihu Rootzefson +
Jan. 8, 1980

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Thank you for your understanding letter
and kind invitation to the Asban Lecture,
Jan. 16th on International Health. I have
waited until this time to reply in hopes
that a prior commitment could be rescheduled
but unfortunately it cannot. It is very hard
for me to get away before Thursday of each
week for I am regularly scheduled to
work full time at S.F.R. Mon.-Wed. Thus,
meetings get planned way in advance.

For future reference, I do come to the
city almost every other week on Thurs & Fri.
and if ever there were to be a lecture of
similar appeal I would be most grateful to
be included in the audience. The particular

one you invited me to really does sound interesting.
I almost went to a Conference on Health
with Linus Pauling and others in October but
various complications arose on the part of the
conference.

By the way, I believe when we last
spoke together at lunch, I mentioned to you
my acquaintance with Norman Cousins. I'm
enclosing a copy of his latest book for your
interest if you haven't already read it. It
may shed an interesting light in regard
to the up and coming program on health.
What seems particularly interesting is that
Medical Communities from all over the U.S.
have invited him to speak before them (as
the first laymen lecturer in many cases.)
and I find his thesis most convincing,
if unconventional. In February he's coming

to speak to a group sponsored by the
Rockefeller Foundation and if you're interested
I'll let you know when it is.

As a result of my trip to Russia
in September for the Soviet/American Writers
Conference, of which Norman Mailer was the
co-chairman, I have subsequently published
an article documenting the conference. I realize
you have very little time but thought you
might be interested if you like alternative
reading material. (Alternative to Scowcroft's
material, I mean.) This is the complete version
which gives a better feel for the country as
a whole. I'm sure the tenor would be
different today given the Russians' recent
acts of aggression. The shorter version was

just on the Conference itself and was published
in "The ~~the~~ Authors Guild Bulletin." No
response is necessary.

I hope that you and Marguerite had
a restful and happy holiday season. Perhaps
next summer you can bring your family
to Shelburne Farms for a weekend. You
would be most welcome and I believe
you would find it a pleasant contrast
to the City.

All my best to you in 1980.

Eileen